

Problem1:

For the first question, instead of using any statistical packages, I manually implemented the exponentially weighted covariance matrix following the steps from the in-class handouts. First, we can get the variance at time t is updated as:

$$\sigma_t^2 = \lambda \sigma_{t-1}^2 + (1 - \lambda) (x_{t-1} - \bar{x})^2$$

Then sets the weights as:

$$w_{t-i} = (1 - \lambda) \lambda^{i-1}$$

, which are normalized to sum to 1 over the finite horizon as below:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (1 - \lambda) \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda^{i-1} = 1$$

$$\widehat{w}_{t-i} = \frac{w_{t-i}}{\sum_{j=1}^n w_{t-j}}$$

Then we can get the covariance between two assets x and y is calculated using the exponentially weighted deviations from their respective means:

$$\widehat{cov}(x, y) = \sum_{i=1}^n \widehat{w}_{t-i} (x_{t-i} - \bar{x}) (y_{t-i} - \bar{y})$$

For this problem, we can choose to use 0.94, 0.97 and 0.99 as selected lambdas. After applying those to the codes, we get the results like below:

Covariance Matrix for $\lambda = 0.8$:

```
[[ 4.77589227e-05 1.80777502e-05 4.79460277e-05 ... 5.68215072e-05
 5.97427094e-05 3.28392189e-05]
 [ 1.80777502e-05 6.93452586e-05 3.39918871e-05 ... 5.51114416e-05
 1.76960182e-05 -1.19538922e-05]
 [ 4.79460277e-05 3.39918871e-05 7.68612696e-05 ... 4.37213332e-05
 3.33875107e-05 6.22931380e-06]
 ...
 [ 5.68215072e-05 5.51114416e-05 4.37213332e-05 ... 1.60530826e-04
 1.27496792e-04 5.17866206e-05]
 [ 5.97427094e-05 1.76960182e-05 3.33875107e-05 ... 1.27496792e-04
 1.89320855e-04 1.66278038e-05]
 [ 3.28392189e-05 -1.19538922e-05 6.22931380e-06 ... 5.17866206e-05
 1.66278038e-05 2.39850502e-04]]
```

Eigenvalues:

```
[8.95559335e-03 2.22535487e-03 1.73341659e-03 1.43667228e-03
 9.94641983e-04 7.76857017e-04 4.90545956e-04 4.38399036e-04
 4.00034573e-04 2.78307436e-04 2.48728141e-04 2.10519865e-04
 1.93552566e-04 1.36331045e-04 1.24741932e-04 8.80947230e-05
 7.40273695e-05 6.40624728e-05 5.13128827e-05 4.42194306e-05
 4.13619644e-05 3.86613720e-05 3.25373611e-05 2.24750374e-05
 1.92138848e-05 1.31393256e-05 1.09414399e-05 7.75603256e-06
 5.17147532e-06 4.65103067e-06 2.62361899e-06 1.87736220e-06
 1.55875038e-06 1.31949658e-06 8.78938014e-07 5.81067637e-07
 3.64549851e-07 2.82462411e-07 2.42102076e-07 1.85582389e-07
 1.67090298e-07 1.27347335e-07 9.20500722e-08 7.84190020e-08]
```

5.88001803e-08 4.18361476e-08 3.73454782e-08 3.05630527e-08
2.47007835e-08 2.42078715e-08 1.38743045e-08 1.25854438e-08
9.39530541e-09 7.86402557e-09 6.50983221e-09 4.76856701e-09
3.75212587e-09 1.92995867e-09 1.78988269e-09 1.42484588e-09
1.26055668e-09 9.30838956e-10 5.63210011e-10 4.70461587e-10
3.83349687e-10 3.18087425e-10 2.26923629e-10 1.60705688e-10
1.35576712e-10 9.21469182e-11 8.20198699e-11 6.11741524e-11
4.12808360e-11 2.82061911e-11 2.50060627e-11 1.80908669e-11
1.58996597e-11 1.19170363e-11 9.23065010e-12 6.08543921e-12
5.68818781e-12 4.48086467e-12 3.99543651e-12 2.78097945e-12
2.49369510e-12 1.59297732e-12 1.05253911e-12 8.24019866e-13
4.53402979e-13 3.40387724e-13 1.59661341e-13 1.37500712e-13
1.07595692e-13 8.75724070e-14 6.46330460e-14 4.75331385e-14
2.32433657e-14 1.67823632e-14 3.36855746e-15 1.20988876e-15]

Eigenvectors:

[[0.07086368 0.0125327 -0.01411373 ... -0.08448692 -0.36349506
-0.88422637]

[0.02137913 -0.07024505 -0.13160533 ... -0.01737612 0.03982206
0.08420486]

[0.076117 -0.06061557 -0.0210185 ... -0.12408602 0.01558836
-0.00663199]

...

[0.07562968 0.05604132 -0.09304905 ... -0.12250437 -0.00800378
0.0300839]

[0.08109478 0.07429547 0.06224211 ... -0.07055294 0.02622302
0.04681611]

[0.04488189 0.17386145 -0.07064461 ... 0.04105774 0.02592652
0.01050223]]

Simulated Returns (first 5) for λ :

[[0.00219069 0.0052265 0.00817899 0.01040614 -0.01472081]
[0.00227819 0.00536858 0.00430607 0.0184067 -0.00462068]
[0.0040058 -0.00308079 0.01353142 0.01186227 -0.0202425]
[-0.00968682 0.00572739 0.02047359 0.02119107 -0.04275394]
[0.00860331 0.01674431 0.03942625 0.02110612 -0.07899666]]

Covariance Matrix for $\lambda = 0.9$:

[[7.83913946e-05 5.57219958e-05 7.34933108e-05 ... 1.04798201e-04
8.33795892e-05 5.80715560e-05]
[5.57219958e-05 1.13615148e-04 6.56245673e-05 ... 7.99383778e-05
4.38598941e-05 2.68095724e-05]
[7.34933108e-05 6.56245673e-05 1.10820578e-04 ... 8.54575815e-05
5.18350640e-05 3.83475574e-05]
...
[1.04798201e-04 7.99383778e-05 8.54575815e-05 ... 2.98447262e-04
1.78027756e-04 8.89882936e-05]
[8.33795892e-05 4.38598941e-05 5.18350640e-05 ... 1.78027756e-04
2.27622783e-04 2.88720176e-05]
[5.80715560e-05 2.68095724e-05 3.83475574e-05 ... 8.89882936e-05
2.88720176e-05 2.83084265e-04]]

Eigenvalues:

[1.23384383e-02 2.33995302e-03 1.89604082e-03 1.56558956e-03
1.27509821e-03 1.17467694e-03 9.53830384e-04 8.64954709e-04
6.34829782e-04 5.80633704e-04 5.25463981e-04 4.70897217e-04

4.34086408e-04 3.99496223e-04 3.40478125e-04 3.17176862e-04
2.82283907e-04 2.60786803e-04 2.52418454e-04 2.41717534e-04
1.75541075e-04 1.48215306e-04 1.37083176e-04 1.26957642e-04
1.15038103e-04 1.03304715e-04 9.48545522e-05 8.00632204e-05
7.90405007e-05 6.47275114e-05 5.37217316e-05 4.83177528e-05
4.29919443e-05 2.70759254e-05 2.64486523e-05 2.16966395e-05
1.80595611e-05 1.60866817e-05 1.34938309e-05 1.30046256e-05
1.16532923e-05 9.07665200e-06 8.26993063e-06 7.01391623e-06
6.52003483e-06 5.85246298e-06 5.08642372e-06 4.07315153e-06
3.37679419e-06 3.22975039e-06 3.01390566e-06 2.88147513e-06
2.41300130e-06 2.20522793e-06 2.03397926e-06 1.42628750e-06
1.29844095e-06 1.17792080e-06 1.09939105e-06 9.31451451e-07
7.60131299e-07 6.67784172e-07 5.37170669e-07 4.86825147e-07
4.37122433e-07 3.67897464e-07 3.15330456e-07 2.54593668e-07
2.46840723e-07 2.46081493e-07 2.10029658e-07 1.68896539e-07
1.42615138e-07 1.38491144e-07 1.08309571e-07 9.31669604e-08
7.67101656e-08 6.61480362e-08 6.31058725e-08 5.11615726e-08
3.80755365e-08 3.61891363e-08 3.11528710e-08 2.76531725e-08
1.98006483e-08 1.79979279e-08 1.43894135e-08 9.27296753e-09
8.60554952e-09 5.57031160e-09 5.43192468e-09 4.74417170e-09
4.29014199e-09 3.85935611e-09 3.26371231e-09 2.71267502e-09
1.91828083e-09 1.22085155e-09 1.89152642e-10 9.28046401e-11]

Eigenvectors:

[[0.07664865 0.00204825 0.02135515 ... 0.06548911 0.20848143
0.94477831]
[0.04661484 0.01553862 0.08144472 ... -0.03264211 -0.02859407

-0.0867698]

[0.07146968 -0.01070067 0.02821677 ... -0.09085497 -0.02332946
0.01263465]

...

[0.1047264 -0.07391598 0.06706017 ... -0.05361415 -0.00278918
0.0070176]

[0.08130214 -0.08979608 0.07803657 ... -0.04780004 -0.01081958
-0.03182632]

[0.05394819 0.05758493 -0.02516378 ... 0.07995014 -0.01313524
-0.02650987]]

Simulated Returns (first 5) for λ :

[[0.01625309 0.00462238 -0.0039461 0.00672467 -0.00786345]
[0.01275624 -0.00152733 -0.00933995 -0.00444239 0.00730991]
[0.01605414 0.00192634 -0.00399384 -0.00421832 -0.00636205]
[0.01569573 0.02356535 -0.00404289 0.03579492 -0.01534951]
[0.02361054 0.02445811 -0.0388742 0.00495262 -0.04590711]]

Covariance Matrix for $\lambda = 0.94$:

[[9.24874550e-05 7.67064710e-05 8.70550156e-05 ... 1.21037304e-04
8.82093995e-05 6.73769433e-05]
[7.67064710e-05 1.60703693e-04 8.82501866e-05 ... 8.29726483e-05
4.91381471e-05 4.74368537e-05]
[8.70550156e-05 8.82501866e-05 1.35036417e-04 ... 9.95235708e-05
5.61916131e-05 5.44816044e-05]
...
[1.21037304e-04 8.29726483e-05 9.95235708e-05 ... 3.82144131e-04
1.87715924e-04 1.00198479e-04]

[8.82093995e-05 4.91381471e-05 5.61916131e-05 ... 1.87715924e-04
2.40607733e-04 3.92272032e-05]
[6.73769433e-05 4.74368537e-05 5.44816044e-05 ... 1.00198479e-04
3.92272032e-05 2.57721419e-04]]

Eigenvalues:

[1.37801875e-02 3.01448756e-03 2.27379621e-03 1.41386621e-03
1.40088095e-03 1.23554489e-03 1.08090654e-03 1.03926412e-03
9.21646019e-04 7.64783086e-04 6.68827853e-04 5.53066122e-04
5.11771624e-04 4.89413160e-04 4.24688664e-04 4.04335304e-04
3.61264162e-04 3.55552884e-04 3.16984351e-04 2.96120002e-04
2.69107584e-04 2.26264674e-04 2.10676343e-04 1.98879012e-04
1.90319309e-04 1.64483636e-04 1.55041488e-04 1.53056493e-04
1.39153743e-04 1.22520326e-04 1.16203536e-04 1.09600691e-04
8.98558792e-05 8.12926787e-05 7.52614793e-05 6.77175295e-05
5.80350495e-05 5.33882107e-05 4.92012259e-05 4.35638515e-05
4.20592593e-05 3.86501098e-05 3.51689379e-05 3.40001814e-05
2.79528483e-05 2.71551473e-05 2.36777878e-05 2.26486732e-05
2.07156381e-05 1.95270560e-05 1.70992699e-05 1.55729838e-05
1.41108556e-05 1.32886823e-05 1.28765969e-05 1.11225427e-05
1.02440576e-05 9.18269164e-06 8.70723200e-06 7.69226080e-06
6.63336302e-06 6.46713074e-06 6.14375325e-06 5.13331487e-06
4.76850230e-06 4.63188577e-06 4.12641755e-06 3.81162776e-06
3.51831249e-06 3.24824426e-06 2.80028502e-06 2.34616652e-06
2.25277079e-06 2.17675044e-06 2.06062787e-06 1.41187440e-06
1.29658129e-06 1.19410169e-06 1.13814966e-06 9.67281195e-07
8.73127416e-07 7.83695521e-07 7.34912581e-07 6.67472463e-07

6.11642341e-07 4.82093201e-07 4.15929937e-07 3.56066513e-07
3.04495693e-07 2.50108702e-07 2.23466721e-07 2.03976331e-07
1.96236138e-07 1.84171015e-07 1.57664135e-07 1.39256017e-07
9.71444743e-08 7.58133500e-08 9.51661257e-09 4.55513276e-09]

Eigenvectors:

[[-0.07835271 -0.01253075 -0.02119607 ... 0.06037998 0.27593961
0.93608353]
[-0.05484338 0.0024911 -0.06107574 ... -0.03302829 -0.03256161
-0.08155373]
[-0.07079584 -0.01283305 -0.02394726 ... -0.0450367 -0.02782043
-0.00375403]
...
[-0.1086942 -0.11902557 0.02207318 ... -0.03076291 -0.01121685
0.01091622]
[-0.07688112 -0.11973829 0.01699196 ... -0.05148978 -0.00415859
-0.02110419]
[-0.05290291 -0.01905144 -0.0335888 ... 0.06813575 -0.0085687
-0.03063525]]

Simulated Returns (first 5) for λ :

[[0.00099202 -0.01136929 0.0055886 -0.00739003 -0.00612879]
[0.00796354 -0.00177834 0.00867099 -0.00046039 -0.01291602]
[-0.00027812 -0.01344849 0.01096402 -0.00067018 -0.0039686]
[-0.020735 -0.02966279 0.01531684 -0.0167787 -0.00499268]
[-0.01169055 -0.04588317 0.00637121 0.00988191 -0.02058596]]

Covariance Matrix for $\lambda = 0.97$:

[[8.77475071e-05 8.21306434e-05 8.71286167e-05 ... 1.07263825e-04

7.71446745e-05 6.12271416e-05]
[8.21306434e-05 2.12476503e-04 1.00647212e-04 ... 6.76861508e-05
4.16016033e-05 5.23388083e-05]
[8.71286167e-05 1.00647212e-04 1.50749075e-04 ... 8.47124558e-05
4.90324563e-05 5.52897389e-05]
...
[1.07263825e-04 6.76861508e-05 8.47124558e-05 ... 3.98294179e-04
1.73177872e-04 8.85383355e-05]
[7.71446745e-05 4.16016033e-05 4.90324563e-05 ... 1.73177872e-04
2.47930308e-04 3.92215596e-05]
[6.12271416e-05 5.23388083e-05 5.52897389e-05 ... 8.85383355e-05
3.92215596e-05 2.03520609e-04]]

Eigenvalues:

[1.23941489e-02 3.64500172e-03 2.04002145e-03 1.55488659e-03
1.33860836e-03 1.23826994e-03 1.05130810e-03 9.46478204e-04
8.65463314e-04 7.97445974e-04 6.83858715e-04 6.11823340e-04
5.58623277e-04 5.48715949e-04 5.06585935e-04 4.76337314e-04
4.33384598e-04 4.00018519e-04 3.54116145e-04 3.43973395e-04
3.22046555e-04 3.04503159e-04 2.76080599e-04 2.63460621e-04
2.32913611e-04 2.19134737e-04 2.10758712e-04 1.96597684e-04
1.84976369e-04 1.79407851e-04 1.62489477e-04 1.56570548e-04
1.48114342e-04 1.41957098e-04 1.29217313e-04 1.24310714e-04
1.19474763e-04 1.13043939e-04 1.10392012e-04 1.01845444e-04
9.44529174e-05 8.62544818e-05 8.18964264e-05 7.93580508e-05
7.30472318e-05 6.78643350e-05 6.58940620e-05 6.15155038e-05
5.47881291e-05 5.25537157e-05 4.91700970e-05 4.77064057e-05

4.46839812e-05 4.27090463e-05 3.86120823e-05 3.70192668e-05
3.58930596e-05 3.32146937e-05 3.18698020e-05 3.06916586e-05
2.77262261e-05 2.74965084e-05 2.58716291e-05 2.52498490e-05
2.25772818e-05 2.24603836e-05 1.98469593e-05 1.91544993e-05
1.73193255e-05 1.63607747e-05 1.55504336e-05 1.36767550e-05
1.29610901e-05 1.20919007e-05 1.15287733e-05 1.02571429e-05
9.37914056e-06 8.76110472e-06 8.32352983e-06 7.90247407e-06
7.13090130e-06 6.73103263e-06 6.50207420e-06 5.93113271e-06
5.48112908e-06 5.27325837e-06 4.70129413e-06 3.92956630e-06
3.70832102e-06 3.24283592e-06 3.13235746e-06 3.02416074e-06
2.74294036e-06 2.47002664e-06 2.31552232e-06 2.04083254e-06
1.57688103e-06 1.42413324e-06 1.21050057e-07 6.17188013e-08]

Eigenvectors:

[[7.99267545e-02 -1.60027528e-02 2.44606437e-02 ... 2.71155968e-02
-1.91598731e-01 9.64764374e-01]
[6.29529917e-02 1.04975096e-02 6.70548364e-02 ... 2.35695147e-02
1.87339756e-02 -7.62961332e-02]
[7.44344538e-02 -7.22584353e-04 2.76527992e-02 ... 3.22179813e-02
2.03151703e-02 -3.05078957e-02]
...
[1.05370009e-01 -1.26446175e-01 -4.40906219e-02 ... 9.64971040e-03
7.71249407e-03 4.87141582e-03]
[7.26843979e-02 -1.22177554e-01 -6.46467092e-02 ... -5.86844064e-02
7.86505270e-03 -1.03611790e-02]
[5.06510223e-02 -3.86658754e-02 4.22290253e-02 ... 4.55271615e-02
5.48822258e-03 -3.12938280e-02]]

Simulated Returns (first 5) for λ :

```
[[ 0.00278182 -0.00973356 0.00142448 -0.00478148 0.00083275]
 [ 0.01407607 -0.00485422 0.01310555 -0.01869864 0.02314863]
 [ 0.00622869 -0.02053096 -0.00039556 -0.00157567 -0.00995009]
 [ 0.01861959 0.00238141 -0.00751578 -0.02427128 -0.00496752]
 [ 0.00877019 -0.02173858 0.00768469 -0.0891445 -0.0131204 ]]
```

Covariance Matrix for $\lambda = 0.99$:

```
[[6.92988938e-05 6.98547004e-05 7.52824019e-05 ... 7.48683265e-05
 6.51707063e-05 4.57603414e-05]
 [6.98547004e-05 2.23728345e-04 9.20840581e-05 ... 3.93872409e-05
 3.26746470e-05 4.22524666e-05]
 [7.52824019e-05 9.20840581e-05 1.54733113e-04 ... 4.73537887e-05
 3.60261515e-05 4.52209662e-05]
 ...
 [7.48683265e-05 3.93872409e-05 4.73537887e-05 ... 3.64324230e-04
 1.61415691e-04 6.12198437e-05]
 [6.51707063e-05 3.26746470e-05 3.60261515e-05 ... 1.61415691e-04
 2.74838925e-04 3.56132907e-05]
 [4.57603414e-05 4.22524666e-05 4.52209662e-05 ... 6.12198437e-05
 3.56132907e-05 1.46196433e-04]]
```

Eigenvalues:

```
[8.83076474e-03 3.45511519e-03 1.52008745e-03 1.31932451e-03
 1.07554100e-03 1.00728001e-03 8.81962758e-04 7.77640635e-04
 6.99457176e-04 6.75009304e-04 6.06011724e-04 5.43217727e-04
 5.22608635e-04 4.77322347e-04 4.53979583e-04 4.42106884e-04
 3.97471395e-04 3.96166703e-04 3.81480479e-04 3.66313217e-04]
```

3.30650584e-04 3.17204804e-04 3.10965244e-04 2.98603558e-04
 2.73911806e-04 2.71892570e-04 2.59570461e-04 2.47858804e-04
 2.26387266e-04 2.24386604e-04 2.07405441e-04 2.00971706e-04
 1.98581545e-04 1.83540896e-04 1.76122792e-04 1.70233375e-04
 1.62225405e-04 1.58280286e-04 1.51328531e-04 1.47266804e-04
 1.41768782e-04 1.30493429e-04 1.27112747e-04 1.22010665e-04
 1.14527217e-04 1.08363252e-04 1.05802828e-04 1.03335913e-04
 1.01542130e-04 9.88650691e-05 9.07045926e-05 8.49487831e-05
 7.97149356e-05 7.87231158e-05 7.54832623e-05 7.32600518e-05
 7.20554416e-05 6.83842253e-05 6.64648636e-05 5.96405777e-05
 5.76391630e-05 5.50453780e-05 5.40249846e-05 5.28623258e-05
 5.15260970e-05 4.94604533e-05 4.90977996e-05 4.29687437e-05
 4.04261297e-05 3.91709832e-05 3.78014909e-05 3.58197476e-05
 3.39276300e-05 3.29888463e-05 3.08349754e-05 3.02499881e-05
 2.88873255e-05 2.71090169e-05 2.59125668e-05 2.49566322e-05
 2.25299643e-05 2.14579360e-05 1.99214985e-05 1.95284767e-05
 1.85685990e-05 1.79505998e-05 1.66510045e-05 1.59557550e-05
 1.52688484e-05 1.40693599e-05 1.21466604e-05 1.16408148e-05
 1.03202702e-05 9.47077011e-06 8.69590607e-06 7.41349299e-06
 6.97608735e-06 6.59049572e-06 3.57897239e-07 2.47337046e-07]

Eigenvectors:

[[-8.37492355e-02 1.67426720e-02 4.25224459e-02 ... 1.32961905e-02
 1.89359870e-01 -9.69013509e-01]
 [-7.19293053e-02 -1.11530472e-02 6.69367419e-02 ... -3.45691529e-02
 -1.59680042e-02 6.49073503e-02]
 [-8.45558055e-02 -1.95563527e-02 1.15549375e-01 ... 9.04950982e-02

-1.05710891e-02 4.87532768e-02]

...

[-1.00119492e-01 1.42837667e-01 -1.37375862e-01 ... 8.15796978e-03

5.03064958e-04 -4.95820506e-03]

[-8.22916798e-02 1.49249588e-01 -7.74295726e-02 ... 6.70301958e-02

-6.67176120e-03 6.68854395e-03]

[-4.89763653e-02 4.24901964e-02 4.52175052e-02 ... 5.56067853e-02

-3.33373084e-03 2.49730400e-02]]

Simulated Returns (first 5) for λ :

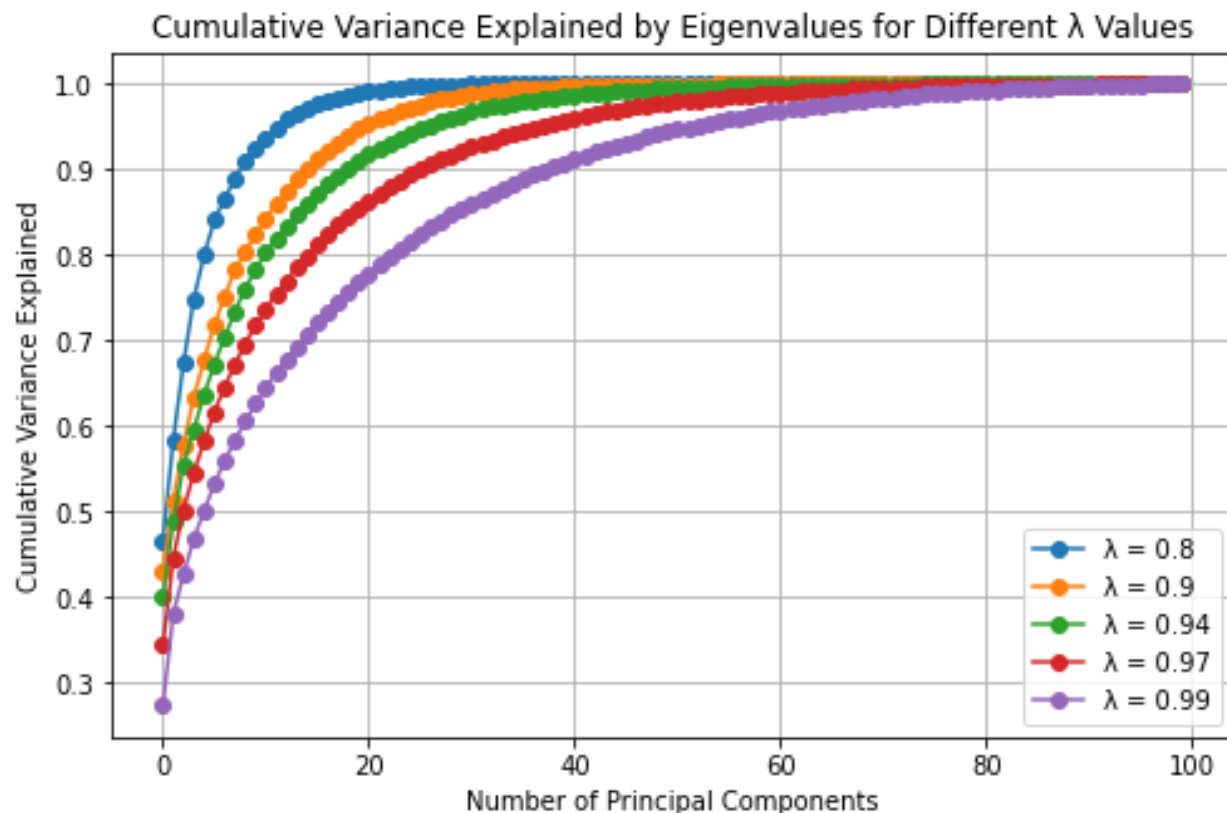
[[-0.00057748 0.00832601 0.00058951 0.0014156 0.00446018]

[-0.00686546 0.01384919 0.02991339 -0.00121995 -0.00294819]

[0.00301891 0.00768929 0.00719375 0.010528 0.00719259]

[-0.01046685 0.0009455 -0.01021482 -0.003914 -0.00261355]

[0.03387756 0.07723555 0.01598682 0.01588962 0.02254696]]



Based on the three charts, we can see that smaller lambda values provide more weights to recent returns, which makes the result that the covariance matrix reflects recent fluctuations more than long-term trends. As lambda increases, the covariance matrix becomes more stable and less sensitive to recent changes, the eigenvalues are more evenly distributed, where we need to consider more elements into the total variance. Here we can use lower lambda value cases to capture the most recent or rapid market changes but might overfit the short-term part; while we can also use the more stable larger lambda values for long-term market analysis but might miss the short-term changes.

Problem 2:

This question I implemented `chol_psd()`, and `near_psd()` functions in python based on the codes in the repository. In the `chol_psd()` function, we did Cholesky decomposition assuming that the matrix is positive definite, where we breakdown the matrix into product of lower triangular matrix and its transpose. For the `near_psd()` function we performed the Cholesky decomposition for positive semi-definite and deal with the two reasons for non-PSD, including the floating point error and missing data. We used `np.linalg.eigvals` to check if any eigenvalues are negative, if so then the matrix is not PSD. In the `near_psd()` function,

we implemented the Higham's method to find the nearest positive semi-definite matrix, here we set any negative eigenvalues to zero to make sure we have PSD matrix. We then used PCA to do the simulation for random variables only using the positive eigenvalues. Both `generate_with_missing` and `missing_cov` handle the missing values. We also compare the results of both using the Frobenius Norm and compare the run time between the two.

For the runtime, we get the following outputs:

	n	Near PSD Time (s)	Higham PSD Time (s)	Frobenius Norm (Near PSD) \
0	500	0.028993	3.001006	0.627523
1	800	0.107001	9.764999	0.795801
2	1000	0.195997	18.546707	0.890491

	Frobenius Norm (Higham PSD)
0	0.063643
1	0.063889
2	0.063971

As you can see from the results, Near PSD can take much less runtime for no matter small or large size of matrices compared to Higham PSD, and as the size increases, the difference between the runtime becomes larger, meaning that from the runtime's perspective, Near PSD is better.

Let's take a look at the Frobenius Norms between Near PSD and Higham PSD. I ran different test cases to see what happened when we have increasing n . As we can see from the table, for each same n , the Frobenius norms for Higham PSD is always less than Near PSD, meaning that the Higham method can provide a more accurate simulation. And as we have increasing n , the Frobenius norms for both Near PSD and Higham PSD keep increasing, meaning that as we have larger matrices, the accuracy level for both methods is lowering; however, Higham PSD has smaller changes than the Near PSD for the same level of n increasing, meaning that we always get higher accuracy for using Higham PSD.

Near PSD:

- Pros:
 - Significantly faster, especially dealing with large size of matrices.
 - The computation is easier so good to use for large-scale problems.

- Cons:
 - o This method might not consider that much as the Higham method.

Higham PSD:

- Pros:
 - o The method is better to handle extreme edge problems
 - o The method can provide more accuracy simulation.
- Cons:
 - o The speed is lower, especially dealing with large-scale problems
 - o The method might cost more memory usage when trying to run it because of the iterative approach.

Problem 3:

First we used the in-class handouts materials to generate Pearson and Exponentially Weighted Correlation Matrices, then we ran the PCA simulation from the Cholesky decomposition and PCA-based simulation. After that, we calculated the Frobenius Norm, where we got sum of squared differences between the original covariance matrix and the simulated covariance matrix, lower number means higher accuracy between the simulated and original one.

Then we generated results like below:

	Matrix Type	Method	Time (s)	Frobenius Norm
0	Pearson Corr + Standard Var	Direct	0.117008	7.866287e-08
1	Pearson Corr + Standard Var	PCA 100%	0.118999	4.507415e-06
2	Pearson Corr + Standard Var	PCA 75%	0.018006	4.507415e-06
3	Pearson Corr + Standard Var	PCA 50%	0.026003	4.507415e-06
4	Pearson Corr + EW Var	Direct	0.099995	1.800771e-07
5	Pearson Corr + EW Var	PCA 100%	0.106998	1.132394e-05
6	Pearson Corr + EW Var	PCA 75%	0.024995	1.132394e-05
7	Pearson Corr + EW Var	PCA 50%	0.020982	1.132394e-05
8	EW Corr + Standard Var	Direct	0.085996	6.882756e-11
9	EW Corr + Standard Var	PCA 100%	0.113998	6.365738e-09
10	EW Corr + Standard Var	PCA 75%	0.025997	6.365738e-09

11	EW Corr + Standard Var	PCA 50%	0.021002	6.365738e-09
12	EW Corr + EW Var	Direct	0.114001	3.073945e-04
13	EW Corr + EW Var	PCA 100%	0.118000	1.354788e-02
14	EW Corr + EW Var	PCA 75%	0.026023	1.354792e-02
15	EW Corr + EW Var	PCA 50%	0.025034	1.354791e-02

As we can see from the outputs, the direct Cholesky decomposition method has lower Frobenius norms, indicating better and more accurate simulation than the PCA-based simulations.

When comparing the run times of the simulations, we find that direct simulation using Direct is slightly faster than PCA 100% but slower than other percentage PCA-based simulations, for example, for the first matrix type, the direct method's runtime is 0.117008 less than PCA 100% of 0.118999, but it's greater than PCA 75% and 50% of 0.018006 and 0.026003, respectively, and as we have less PCA dimension, the runtime further decrease. On the other hand, PCA-based simulations, especially those with reduced components are significantly faster. This is because we can compare direct with PCA 100% cause they both run the simulation on the entire original covariance matrix, but for the dimensional PCA method, it only takes parts of the original matrix to perform the simulation, which cause the runtime to decrease, thus enhance the efficiency.

To summarize, we need to choose Direct if we have high priority for accuracy, and its more suitable for smaller-scale problems. We need to consider dimensionality PCA-based simulations, for example PCA 75% or 50% if we want to reach high efficiency for running the computation, and its preferable for large-scale problems.